

REMARKS

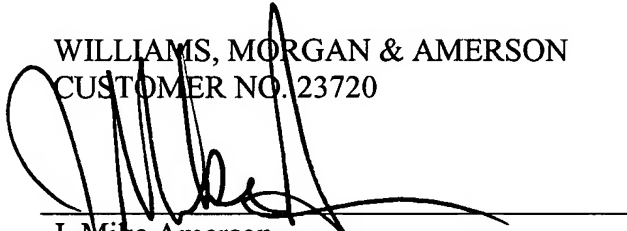
Pursuant to the present amendment, claims 36, 38, 40-72, 79-80 and 89 have been canceled. Thus, claims 1, 3-19, 22-23, 28-29, 35, 78-78 and 81-88 are pending in the present application.

It is believed that all currently pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. It should be understood that, in canceling the claims identified herein, Applicants do not acquiesce in the correctness of the Examiner's rejections. Applicants specifically reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the rejected claims in a later filed application should they so desire.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (713) 934-4055 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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